Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended): A method of routing data between IP-based telephone extensions in a telecommunications network, the method comprising:

~~the telecommunications network comprising:~~

providing a first remote telephone group containing a first set of IP-based telephones and a second remote telephone group containing a second set of IP-based telephones, the first and second remote telephone groups being connected to the Internet through first and second IP sharing devices, respectively;

~~a first Internet Protocol (IP) sharing device for sharing connection to a first IP address;~~

~~a first remote telephone group containing a first set of IP-based telephones, the first remote telephone group being connected to the Internet through the first IP sharing device, and each of the IP-based telephones in the first remote telephone groups being assigned a unique identifier;~~

~~a second IP sharing device for sharing connection to a second IP address;~~

~~a second remote telephone group containing a second set of IP-based telephones, the second remote telephone group being connected to the Internet through the second IP sharing device, and each of the IP-based telephones in the second remote telephone groups being assigned a unique identifier;~~

connecting a main host ~~connected~~ to the Internet for controlling data traffic over the Internet between the first remote telephone group and the second remote telephone group; ~~and~~

connecting a remote host ~~connected~~ to the Internet through the first IP sharing device for linking the first remote telephone group to the second remote telephone group and main host;

~~the method comprising:~~

the remote host connecting with and logging into the main host;

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group;

5 transmitting the data packets to the remote host;

the remote host transmitting the data packets to the main host; and

the main host transmitting the data packets to the destination IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group for establishing communication between the source IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group and the

10 destination IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group.

2 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first

15 remote telephone group;

transmitting the data packets to the main host;

the main host transmitting the data packets to the remote host; and

the remote host transmitting the data packets to the destination IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group for establishing communication between

20 the source IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group and the destination IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group.

3 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote

25 telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group;

the remote host contacting the main host to request connection of the source IP-based telephone and the destination IP-based telephone;

the main host contacting the remote host to grant connection of the source IP-based

telephone and the destination IP-based telephone;

the remote host establishing a direct connection between the source IP-based telephone and the destination IP-based telephone; and

the source IP-based telephone communicating with the destination IP-based

5   telephone.

4 (original): The method of claim 3 wherein the source IP-based telephone communicates with the destination IP-based telephone locally without connecting to the Internet.

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5 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

terminating connection between the remote host and the main host;

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first

15   remote telephone group;

the remote host establishing a direct connection between the source IP-based telephone and the destination IP-based telephone; and

the source IP-based telephone communicating with the destination IP-based telephone.

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6 (original): The method of claim 5 wherein the source IP-based telephone communicates with the destination IP-based telephone locally without connecting to the Internet.

25   7 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the remote host performs bandwidth control functions for the first remote telephone group.

8 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the remote host sends duplicate copies of system information received from the main host to each of the IP-based telephones

in the first remote telephone group.

9 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the first and second IP <u>sharing</u> <u>devices each share a connection to a</u> ~~addresses are~~ dynamic IP <u>address</u> ~~addresses~~.

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10 (currently amended): A method of routing data between IP-based telephone extensions in a telecommunications network, <u>the method comprising:</u> ~~the telecommunications network comprising:~~

<u>providing first remote telephone group containing a first set of IP-based telephones</u> <u>and a second remote telephone group containing a second set of IP-based</u> <u>telephones, the first and second remote telephone groups being connected to</u> <u>the Internet through first and second IP sharing devices, respectively;</u>

~~a first Internet Protocol (IP) sharing device for sharing connection to a first IP address;~~

~~a first remote telephone group containing a first set of IP-based telephones, the first remote telephone group being connected to the Internet through the first IP sharing device, and each of the IP-based telephones in the first remote telephone groups being assigned a unique identifier;~~

~~a second IP sharing device for sharing connection to a second IP address;~~

~~a second remote telephone group containing a second set of IP-based telephones, the second remote telephone group being connected to the Internet through the second IP sharing device, and each of the IP-based telephones in the second remote telephone groups being assigned a unique identifier;~~

<u>connecting</u> a main host ~~connected~~ to the Internet for controlling data traffic over the Internet between the first remote telephone group and the second remote telephone group;

<u>connecting</u> a first remote host ~~connected~~ to the Internet through the first IP sharing device for linking the first remote telephone group to the second remote telephone group and main host; ~~and~~

connecting a second remote host ~~connected~~ to the Internet through the second IP

sharing device for linking the second remote telephone group to the first

remote telephone group and main host;

~~the method comprising:~~

5   the first and second remote hosts connecting with and logging into the main host;

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote

telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the second

remote telephone group;

transmitting the data packets to the first remote host;

10   the first remote host transmitting the data packets to the second remote host; and

the second remote host transmitting the data packets to the destination IP-based

telephone in the second remote telephone group for establishing

communication between the source IP-based telephone in the first remote

telephone group and the destination IP-based telephone in the second remote

15   telephone group.

11 (original): The method of claim 10 further comprising:

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the second remote

telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first

20   remote telephone group;

transmitting the data packets to the second remote host;

the second remote host transmitting the data packets to the first remote host; and

the first remote host transmitting the data packets to the destination IP-based

telephone in the first remote telephone group for establishing communication

25   between the source IP-based telephone in the second remote telephone group

and the destination IP-based telephone in the first remote telephone group.

12 (original): The method of claim 10 further comprising:

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote

telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first

remote telephone group;

the first remote host contacting the main host to request connection of the source

IP-based telephone and the destination IP-based telephone;

5   the main host contacting the first remote host to grant connection of the source

IP-based telephone and the destination IP-based telephone;

the first remote host establishing a direct connection between the source IP-based

telephone and the destination IP-based telephone; and

the source IP-based telephone communicating with the destination IP-based

10   telephone.

13 (original): The method of claim 12 wherein the source IP-based telephone

communicates with the destination IP-based telephone locally without connecting

to the Internet.

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14 (original): The method of claim 10 further comprising:

terminating connection between the first remote host and the main host;

generating data packets with a source IP-based telephone in the first remote

telephone group for contacting a destination IP-based telephone in the first

20   remote telephone group;

the first remote host establishing a direct connection between the source IP-based

telephone and the destination IP-based telephone; and

the source IP-based telephone communicating with the destination IP-based

telephone.

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15 (original): The method of claim 14 wherein the source IP-based telephone

communicates with the destination IP-based telephone locally without connecting

to the Internet.

16 (original): The method of claim 10 wherein the first and second remote hosts perform bandwidth control functions for the first and second remote telephone groups, respectively.

5   17 (original): The method of claim 10 wherein the first and second remote hosts send duplicate copies of system information received from the main host to each of the IP-based telephones in the first and second remote telephone groups, respectively.

18 (currently amended): The method of claim 10 wherein the first and second IP <u>sharing</u>
10   <u>devices each share a connection to a</u> ~~addresses are~~ dynamic IP <u>address</u> ~~addresses~~.